

REMARKS

Claim 1-14 and 19-22 are currently pending, wherein claim 9 has been amended, and claims 15-18 and 23-34 have been canceled. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the remarks presented herein below.

At the outset, Applicant submits herewith an English translation of Korean Patent Application No. 1999-43508, filed on October 8, 1999, from which the instant application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, along with a Verification of Translation. Accordingly, Applicant hereby perfects a priority date of October 8, 1999.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action (“Action”), the Examiner objects to claim 9 because of a typographical error. Applicant hereby amends claim 9 to correct the typographical error, thereby addressing the Examiner’s concerns.

In paragraph 4 of the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0035726 A1 to Corl (“Corl”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

A proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) requires, among other things, that the cited reference be described in an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another *filed* in the United States *before the invention* by the Applicant for patent. In the present case, the Corl application was filed on April 17, 2001 with priority back to a provisional application filed on April 17, 2000. The instant application has a perfected priority date of October 8, 1999 (See discussion above). Therefore, the Corl application was not filed *before the invention* by the Applicant for patent. Accordingly, Corl is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Corl.

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner find the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: March 25, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


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